REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on November 20, 2002 as well as the art cited. Claim 86 is amended and claim 89 is cancelled, therefore claims 86-88 and 90-93 are pending in this application,

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 86-93 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakagawa (U.S. Patent No. 4,980,516). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 86 as amended is directed to a method of manufacturing an apparatus for containing objects. The method comprises forming first and second heat-conducting partial-shells, having first and second faces, respectively, attaching at least one object to either the first or second partial-shell for thermal contact there between and forming a housing by butting the first and second faces together. The method further includes enhancing heat transfer between the first and second heat-conducting partial-shells. Enhancing heat transfer comprises, disposing a conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second heat-conducting partial-shells to provide void-free contact between the first and second faces.

Nakagawa does not teach or suggest the method of manufacturing of claim 86. In particular, Nakagawa does not teach or suggest forming first and second heat-conducting partial shells, attaching at least one object to either the first to second partial-shell for thermal contact there between, or disposing a conformable thermally conductive material between the first and second heat-conducting partial shells to provide void-free contact between the first and second faces. In contrast, Nakagawa describes an electromagnetic-shielding gasket composed of an elastic body. (See Abstract)

With respect to forming first and second heat-conducting partial shells, Applicant does not find any reference to the heat transfer properties of the housing in Nakagawa nor forming heat-conducting partial shells as found in claim 86. Further, with respect to attaching at least one object to either the first or second partial shell the Examiner refers to an electromagnetic-shielding gasket 1. (See Col. 3, line 32.) In contrast, claim 86 includes attaching an object to either the first or second partial-shell for thermal contact there between and disposing a

conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second heat-conducting partial shells. Applicant finds no discussion of attaching an object for thermal contact there between as found in claim 86.

In addition, Nakagawa does not teach or suggest disposing a conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second heat-conducting partial shells to provide void-free contact between the first and second faces as found in claim 86. In contrast, Nakagawa describes an electromagnetic-shielding gasket. (See Abstract) Further Nakagawa, does not teach or suggest enhancing heat transfer between first and second heat-conducting partial-shells. In contrast, Nakagawa describes preventing electromagnetic waves from passing through the gaps. (See Abstract)

As a result Nakagawa does not anticipate claim 86 and claim 86 should be allowed. Claims 87-88 and claim 90-93 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 86 and should also be allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims 86-88 and 90-93 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 332-4720.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

86. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing an apparatus for containing objects, the method comprising:

forming first and second heat-conducting partial-shells, having first and second faces, respectively;

attaching at least one object to either the first or second partial-shell for thermal contact therebetween;

forming a housing by butting the first and second faces together; [and]

enhancing heat transfer between the first and second heat-conducting partial-shells;

wherein enhancing heat transfer comprises, disposing a conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second heat-conducting partial-shells to provide void-free contact between the first and second faces.

87. (Original) The method of claim 86, further comprising providing for selectively securing the first and second heat conducting partial-shells together.

88. (Original) The method of claim 87, further comprising connecting the first and second partial-shells so that the first and second partial-shells pivot about a common axis.

89. (Cancelled)

90. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein enhancing the heat transfer is accomplished by disposing a weatherproof conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second faces to increase the thermal contact between the respective faces.

91. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein enhancing the heat transfer further comprises sealing the housing against the weather and is carried out by disposing a weatherproof, weather-sealing conformable thermally conducting material between the first and second faces to increase the thermal contact between the respective faces.

92. (Original) The method of claim 86 further comprising sealing the housing against electromagnetic interference by disposing an electromagnetic-interference seal between the first and second faces.

93. (Original) The method of claim 86 further comprising sealing the housing against electromagnetic interference and the weather by disposing a weatherproof, weather sealing electromagnetic-interference seal between the first and second faces.